

A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND RESURRECTION

LON ALEXANDER, JR.

PRELUDE Elizabeth Smith, Organist

THE WORD OF GRACE

Jesus said, I am the Resurrection and I am Life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, yet shall they live, and whoever believes in me shall never die. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and last. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I hold the keys of hell and death. Because I live, you shall live also.

GREETING

We have gathered here to praise God and to witness to our faith as we celebrate the life of Lon Alexander, Jr. We come together in grief, acknowledging our human loss. May God search our hearts, that in pain we may find comfort, in sorrow hope, and in death the truth of his resurrection.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

O God, Creator of all life, help us to accept death as a special part of life, trusting in your goodness and great love for every one of us. We feel now the pain of parting one we love, but we rejoice that we were privileged to experience life with Lon. We entrust him to you in death, as in life you entrusted him to us. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, through whom you have offered to each of us your great gift of eternal life. Amen.

ACT OF PRAISE (23rd Psalm in unison)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul;

ACT OF PRAISE, continued

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

For thou art with me: thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

Thou anointest my head with oil;

My cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

THE PASTORAL PRAYER
The Lord's Prayer

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE AND LOVE
Tom Umphrey,
President, Shelton State Community College

Arthur Howington
Academic Dean, Shelton State Community College

Lee Albritton
Professor of Chemistry, Shelton State Community College

Ruby Miller Professor of Mathmatics, Shelton State Community College

> Professor of Speech Communication, Shelton State Community College

> > Rhonda Brinyark Student

> > > Debra Sparks Student

WORDS OF HOPE AND LIFE

William H. Bostick, Jr. Minister, First United Methodist Church

AN AFFIRMATION OF WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe in God:

Who has created and is creating,
who has come in the true man, Jesus,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by his Spirit.
We trust him.
He calls us to be his church:
to celebrate his presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life bound death

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

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THE DOXOLOGY

THE BLESSING

THE POSTLUDE Elizabeth Smith, Organist

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